

## THE TIMES

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THE TIMES COMPANY.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1892.

## SIX PAGES.

The reception at the Westmoreland Club last night deserves more than a "local" notice.

It was an assemblage of between five hundred and six hundred gentlemen nearly all "native and to the manner born," with an addition of congenial associates, who met around the social board to exchange greetings and good wishes. Their freedom from restraint at no time degenerated into levity, but good-fellowship, prompted by a genuine and cordial interest in each other, gave to the whole company an atmosphere of refined geniality.

The deference shown by Southern gentlemen to each other has been frequently a subject of observation by those not acquainted with the customs of our people and who do not know that the courtesy of man to man with us is the result of generations of training that the same gentleman is a real thing, and that it means, first of all, mutual respect.

At the Richmond clubs maintain this spirit among the men of Richmond they will deserve praise from some who would now condemn them as inimical to home life.

Public affairs in France have gone from bad to worse, but there seems to be no ground for the evil prediction made by a great many about the stability of the Republic. As a contemporary reasoner in the first place the Royalists have no powerful leader. The young Duke of Orleans, who would probably be selected to head their forces, is without ability, experience or popularity. The purple has lost its magic spell with the masses. And, in the second place, the support of the Church, as directed from Rome, is with the Republic. The strength of this was shown by the collision between the Government and the bishops upon this matter a year ago and the explicit letter of instruction sent by the Pope. The present form of government was to be recognized as the legitimate one, and, as such, was to be loyally supported. If the present turmoil is to end in a change of any kind, as it very likely may, it would seem to point to one of parties—a shifting from the Liberal to the Conservative—nothing more sweeping.

Nicholas Smith, the son-in-law of Horace Greeley, has been transferred from his consular post at Three Rivers, Canada, to a similar position at Liege, Belgium. The change will be a very agreeable one, as Mr. Smith, by publishing a report, which was probably true, about the horrible sanitary condition of Three Rivers, excited against him the dire animosity of the people of that town, and rendered him so completely persona non grata there that his life was a burden to him. The transfer of Mr. Smith, however, will not improve the condition of Three Rivers unless the authorities there go to work and clean up the place.

An experiment is to be made with a mail tube between the New York and Brooklyn postoffices, which is a novelty in that a miniature electric car on the trolley system will carry the mails. The tube will be made of steel of rectangular section. The traveler to convey the letters will be four feet long and 14 by 14 inches in breadth and height. It will be carried through the tube by an electric motor fed by a wire running along the bottom of the tube, the system being precisely similar to that of the trolley car. If the plan succeeds it will be tried for much longer distances.

The Manufacturers' Record, of Baltimore, predicts a bright future for the South. Since the election, it says, that confidence has been restored, and that the next year will witness a scene of unprecedented commercial, industrial and business activity in this section. The elections have certainly removed from the South all fear of hostile Force bill legislation, and that with the money which the advanced price of cotton has brought the Southern people ought to make the Record a true prophet.

At the head of the editorial columns of Elder Shepard's issue of his remarkable Episcopalian text was the following: "For the company of the godless shall be barren, and fire shall consume the tents of bribery. They conceive mischief and bring forth iniquity." In this the Elder was striking at the Republicans of France, but it is strange that he never thought how peculiarly appropriate that text was to the Republican party of the United States.

The Brooklyn Eagle wants the French duellists to be hanged, whereupon the Washington Post suggests that if that were done it might make dueling dangerous. There is a good deal in this suggestion. It would be a pity to break up the only amusement the French statesmen can enjoy in this the hour of their sad extremity.

## THE STREETS AND THE SPOILS SYSTEM.

Our article of a few days back arguing that the city should, if necessary, sell bonds to provide a fund for laying out and grading the streets of the new West End addition to the city, has certainly had one good effect, at least. It has caused the plan upon which the money appropriated by the Council for street improvement is divided out to be prominently brought forward and discussed. The plan is this: The budget, when made up, appropriates, let us say, \$100,000 for streets, for the year 1893. The city has six wards. The Street Committee divides this \$100,000 into six parts and appropriates one-sixth to the streets of each ward. The plan is the spoils system, pure and simple, and it exactly the plan which all safe-blenders adopt for dividing the results of their night vigils. The question of spending money where the needs of the city require it to be spent has no place whatever in "the plan," the determining consideration being that each locality is to get its arm as deep into the public Treasury as it can be thrust. Ignoring the city's needs, it has not even the pretence of equality, for, under it, Jackson ward, needing little, which contributes a very small proportion to the common fund, gets as much as Clay ward, needing a great deal, which contributes a very large proportion to the common fund. And one of the absurd results produced by it is that it forces on some of the wards money for streets that they have no real use for, and we consequently see improvements constantly taking place in Madison and Monroe wards, for which there is no sort of occasion, whilst Clay ward and others with their large suburbs, need all they can get, yet are compelled to leave their improved streets unattended to, in order that they may spend their whole quota on those which have had nothing.

The whole principle of this thing is, as we have said, a manifestation of the spoils system, degrading to public morals and injuriously restrictive of the city's development. There is but one equitable and sensible plan for appropriating money to streets, and that is to have it spent where the needs of the city call for it; and the people of the city should promptly rise up and demand of their Council that the spoils system shall be abandoned, and that public money shall hereafter be spent according to the demands of public needs.

The absurdity of "the plan" is brought into full view when we consider the needs and demands of the territory recently added to the city in the West End. Whether it was wise or not wise to make the addition is not now to the purpose. The addition has been made—it is an accomplished fact—and sensible men deal with facts as they find them without reference to a past which might have been differently shaped. The main location of new residences is on the skirts of the city—east, west and north—but, being far from the port outside of the city limits, the improvements bring no revenue to the city. Within the actual boundary of the city the trend of new private residences is to the west. Within the old boundaries of the city there is but little ground in this direction upon which residences can be built. Parties proposing to erect expensive residences will not build them in the Lee district addition unless streets are laid out and permanent grades are given. Otherwise their money might be thrown away through subsequent changes. This new territory can be graded and streets laid out, for little, if any, more than \$30,000. Spending this amount on it would cause values to increase there at once, so that the returns to the city would be many times the interest on the cost. Common sense and every right principle which should control our city fathers demand that the city should at once provide the money necessary to grade and lay out the streets of this territory; but "the spoils plan" stands in the way and makes it impossible for the Council to appropriate \$30,000 here, where it will bring an enormous return to the city, unless it will appropriate \$30,000 to Jackson ward, where it would bring no return, is not needed and would be in a large part sunk. How long will the tax-payers of this city continue to let politicians spend their money upon such a vicious principle, instead of directing that it shall be spent in accordance with the general good of the city?

POPULAR VOTE FOR PRESIDENT.

The Brooklyn Eagle publishes the popular vote for President at the recent election as nearly as it can be approximated by official returns from all but fourteen States, with very accurate estimates as to the results in those. From this it appears that the Democratic gain over 1888 was much smaller than was expected, although the Republican total shows a heavy loss.

According to the Eagle: For Grover Cleveland the Democrats in 1888 cast a vote of 5,607,134. His vote in 1888 was 5,536,242. The increase was 70,892. Benjamin Harrison's Republican vote in 1892 was 5,582,068. In 1888 it was 5,449,708. His loss was 132,360. The nominee of the Populists, James B. Weaver, received in 1892 a total of 996,998. The greenback labor candidate in 1888 had 308,578. The gain was 688,420. Bidwell, the Prohibitionist candidate in 1892, polled 200,894. Four years earlier the Prohibition vote was 246,876. The gain was 34,068. On the total vote for President the average quadrennial increase has been about 1,150,000. The advance in 1892 was only 783,132. Here is the aggregate vote and the percentage of increase since the second election of Mr. Lincoln:

Year.	Total Vote.	Per Ct. Increase.
1864.....	4,024,762	—
1868.....	5,724,824	43
1872.....	6,431,149	12
1876.....	8,426,273	31
1880.....	9,219,247	9
1884.....	10,967,619	19
1888.....	11,353,970	35
1892.....	12,167,102	7

It is evident from the above that the small gain in the Democratic, compared with the very large loss of the Republican, vote was due to the inroads made by the Third party. As a rule the voters of the country in 1892 were remarkably apathetic. The Democrats were more active and aggressive than their Republican opponents, who were completely benumbed and paralyzed; but still the Democrats lacked the vigor and enthusiasm which characterized their previous contests. A good deal of this was due to the fact that, from the very day of the nomination of Mr. Cleveland, the people

made up their minds how they would vote, and, having decided, felt no special interest in the conduct of the campaign. The Democracy seemed to feel, from the first, that victory was theirs, and, therefore, were not impelled by the spirit of anxiety which had possessed them in former Presidential years.

The Third party people were, however, very active, and as a result succeeded in capturing Kansas, Colorado, Idaho and Nevada. It will be seen that all the States in which they made decided headway were heretofore rock-ribbed Radical strongholds, and the reason of their success may reasonably be ascribed to the fact that their ex-Republican converts, though disgusted with Radicalism, were still too prejudiced against the Democracy to vote its ticket, and so supported Weaver, who represented a faction that was neither fish, flesh nor fowl.

The result of the election, therefore, presages well for the future of the Democracy. The Third or Populist party can never become a great political organization, for it represents a mass of crude, conglomerate ideas, full of impracticability and ignorance of the first principles of political wisdom. The fact that it showed so much strength is only evidence that the Republican party is losing its hold on the people, and that those who left that party to vote with the Populists only took their first step forward towards Democracy. All the Third party can possibly accomplish is to effect a realignment of the old parties within the next four years, and if the Democracy remain true to the sound conservatism which has always been its marked feature, that realignment will be to its decided benefit. One of the main points in the rearrangement of the old parties in the future will be the casting aside of sectionalism, and with sectionalism destroyed, the life of Radicalism is sapped.

## THE FRENCH DUEL.

Whilst the duel had a place in the social establishment of the South, whatever might be said against it, it certainly exercised a healthful influence there. Its wholesome effect proceeded from the fact that duels were serious encounters in which one, or both parties, would probably be killed or badly wounded. But the French duel is one of the most absurd and ridiculous phenomena that modern life ever presents, and irresistibly funny, as portraying French character to perfection, the most notable quality of which is a propensity to play at serious things.

The duel of which the telegraph has just given us an account, between M. Clemenceau and M. De Roulede, the fustian that ever the French have furnished us with for a long time, and, with-out apologies, we shall restate the leading events of it categorically, that they may be seen together, unencumbered and disguised by extraneous matters.

It being determined that the duel should take place, M. De Roulede participated in a most affecting scene at parting with his friends for the duelling ground. He embraced and kissed them repeatedly and assured them that he would die in a manner worthy of the Legion of Honor, of which he is a member. When one of his friends expressed the hope that the encounter would not have a fatal ending he shook his head mournfully. He fully expected, he declared, to lose his life.

At the same moment M. Clemenceau, who was spending the morning with Mrs. Reichenberg, prepared himself likewise for "the scene of mortal combat" in his French telegraphic accounts of the affair. He gave directions about the issue of his paper, La Justice, and left orders as to the management of the paper, in the event of any fatality occurring to him. The staff crowded around their chief, and he kissed and embraced them each in turn. Some of them shed tears, and begged him not to expose himself to more danger than necessary. M. Clemenceau gently rebuked them. He said: "I have too often stood on the field of honor to have any apprehension now." He said that he preferred death to dishonor, and spoke in a tone of resolution that evoked the admiration of his assistants.

We have given the details of what took place before the duel in the words of the French newspaper correspondents at Paris as they telegraphed them to this country, with no exaggeration whatever. Now, if it were possible to imagine such a thing, what would the public have expected in former years, when duelling was practiced here, from a duel arranged to take place between two distinguished Virginians, of which it was told, before the duel, such details as the preceding? It is useless to answer the question. Now what did actually occur under the modern French school? At the moment these affecting scenes were taking place the principals knew that it was arranged for the duel to take place with pistols, each party to fire three shots, the combatants to be seventy-five feet from each other. Seventy-five feet is one-third of the length of a Richmond city square. Clemenceau knew that he was as safe to have De Roulede to shoot at him with a pistol at that distance as he is in ordinary traveling on a railroad car, and De Roulede knew the same. Under these circumstances what a ridiculous rubbing the eyes with onions this tear and embracing act was.

But what actually took place? The parties fired two shots apiece without effect, when a friend rushed forward and begged the combatants "to cease the murderous encounter." Both declared they must have another shot; it was fired without effect, and, says the French reporter, "the two seconds then ran up and insisted that the duel must terminate; that both had behaved in a most heroic manner, and that any outrage upon their honor had been fully vindicated."

We believe the Anti-Duelling Society hires Frenchmen to fight French duels.

The people of St. Louis are reported to be exceedingly surprised that there should have been any shortage in the funds of their assistant city treasurer, who so lately shot himself, but it is strange that they should be. He had a record as a fast young man and a "plunger," who would bet heavily at games and races, placing sometimes \$1,000 on a horse. When a man like that has to handle annually millions of some one else's dollars his end can be foretold from the beginning.

A Washington dispatch says that President Harrison will leave office in confidence of expectation of being renominated and elected in 1896. If Mr. Harrison is really anticipating any such thing he is laying an unctious to his soul that is more flattering than many of those which daily lead men on to misery.

## THE DAILY FASHION HINT.

A Pretty Beginning May Lead to an Unfavourable Development.



The beginning of almost all fashions has been pretty; it is only the exaggeration of effect that brings about lack of grace. This season seems to bid fair to go back to the sweet first principles of many old-time modes, freed from the "developments" that later made them ridiculous. The credit is due to the late Mrs. M. It is only when a century invents a mode that women are presently turned into frights. Witness the late departed bustle, and the late de-throned steels. The women of '92 and '93 must be the best and most comfortably dressed woman since the Greek girl. By the way, the old Grecian dress would not have lit off very well in these days. It would have been harder to keep out of the mud than any late mode. It would have looked a sight with an umbrella and a Mackintosh, and what would one's glove be? To say nothing of having to give up French benedictions.

To be a picture in a reception dress with embroidered overdress for a young woman. The Princess-shape of the dress, of some similar silk material. In the sleeves, green velvet of the same shade as the silk material is employed, and for the overdress white embroidered tulle. The yoke at the throat and the undersleeves are made of gold passementerie, with light green chenille trim around the neck and cuffs. This dress is invisibly closed under the Watteau pleat in the middle of the back. It must be very strongly whaledown at the back, and is to be made independently from the upper part of the dress. In front the tulle, as one can see from the engraving, is drawn together in folds; and, in order to form the Watteau pleat behind the folds must be full. The sleeves are closely fitted excepting at the top, where they are very much puffed, and are ornamented with gold passementerie. In front underneath the trimming of passementerie and as a finish to the folds of tulle, three pompons of velvet are employed.

## SENTENCED TO THE PENITENTIARY.

Housmann Spends the Next Ten Years in the State Prison.

The charge against Housmann was as an end in the Henrico County Court yesterday by the finding of the prisoner guilty, and his punishment was fixed at ten years in the penitentiary. The argument was closed by the Commonwealth's Attorney on Thursday night, and the case was given to the jury this morning on reassembling of the court.

The charge against Housmann was an assault on his own daughter, and it did not take the jury long to decide the question, for in an hour they returned with a verdict of guilty, and his confinement was ascertained at ten years in the penitentiary.

The prisoner showed emotion for the first time during this celebrated case. It is reported that half of the jury favored releasing the prisoner. This is a conjecture, though.

The counsel for Housmann promptly moved to set aside the verdict, as contrary to the law and evidence, and much time was taken up in discussion and argument of the motion.

Judge Christian overruled the motion and sentenced Housmann to ten years' confinement in the State penitentiary. He made no reply when the usual questions were asked him as to passing sentence upon him.

His counsel took an appeal to the circuit court and Housmann was removed to jail.

The Times has noticed this case briefly, because the testimony could not be printed, being of a nature at times exceedingly shocking.

Housmann was most ably defended by the counsel assigned him by the Court. They were Messrs. W. M. Justice, Jr., of Richmond, and William Hay Garnett, of Manchester, two rising young counsel-at-law.

Judge Isaac H. Christian, of Charles City county, has sat during this trial for Judge C. C. May, Jr., who is ill. The trial began on last Monday. The grand jury will meet to-day and the Nicholas case will come up for its further consideration.

Work of the Brotherhood.

There is good work which the Monumental Chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, together with the chapters of St. James and Grace churches, are doing quietly, but none the less effectively, which I managed to find out yesterday.

Last spring committees from the three chapters rented the large room, corner of Main and Lombardy streets, and inaugurated what they called the "West-End Episcopal Mission."

First they opened an afternoon Sunday school with about a dozen scholars, and the number of them has steadily increased, until now there are on the roll 115 scholars and twenty officers and teachers.

In addition to the school there are services held every Sunday afternoon after the Sunday school, and every Thursday night at 8 o'clock.

There is a sewing school, which meets every Saturday evening, and a ladies' sewing society every Thursday morning.

Arrangements are now making for the purchase of a lot on which to build a church in the vicinity.

The room has been beautifully decorated for Christmas, and on the Tuesday after Christmas day there will be an entertainment for the children, beginning at 3:30 P. M. Every child will be remembered with a bag of fruits, candies, etc.

Pies! Pies! Pies!!!

Home-made family pies, mince, apple, lemon, coconut, lemon meringue pies, at Moesta's, 111 east Main street.

Christmas Dessert.

Pure ice-cream in all flavors, maroon pudding with sauce, nesselrode pudding with sauce, wine jelly, meringue glace, all kinds of fancy cakes, cream, sponge, jelly cake, almond cake, etc., at Moesta's, 111 east Main.

Phone 247.

Send your orders for Christmas desserts to Moesta, and they will receive prompt attention.

Fireworks, fireworks, fireworks, very cheap at Moesta's, 111 east Main street.

Buy a Dressing Case as a present for your little girl. For sale by furniture dealers.

## THE COHEN COMPANY.

Yes, indeed; music again to-night—STEIN'S ORCHESTRA Commences at 8. The store'll be open later than usual to-night; but it's best to shop as early as you can.

No tedious waiting here. We've established cash-desks and wrapping counters all over the store—it don't take more 'an a minute for you to get your purchases.

It's hard to conceive of the throng getting too big to-day to be waited on promptly—we're educated in handling crowds comfortably. The store service is wonderfully efficient, and attentive without being importunate. We want everybody to enjoy visiting the Big Store at all times.

Stocks of Christmas things show decimated ranks from the big selling; but new things keep pouring in—telegraphed for lots of things yesterday that'll be in and ready for you.

More ONYX TABLES have come. We've had a wonderful sale in them this year—because they are elegant and because we sold them best.

Here's the last of the elegant ONYX CABINETS—five onyx shelves—an exquisite thing, \$39—and it is richly worth \$65.

PIANO LAMPS, complete with silk-fringed linen shade of any color, for \$6.50 or any price above. The lamp selling has been phenomenal here. Some elegancies to-day for little. Remember we furnish silk shades as elegant as you want, but the price on the lamps is only complete with linen shade—

A grand Piano Lamp, two onyx shelves, \$21, worth \$29.

An exquisite Lamp and Pedestal for \$25.50, or you can buy the pieces separately.

Piano Lamp, two onyx shelves, \$16, worth \$22.

Piano Lamp, an artistic combination of onyx and brass, \$18.25, worth \$25.

Nickel and onyx Piano Lamp, \$21.50, worth \$28.

Piano Lamp, ornate brass mountings, large onyx shelf, \$26, worth \$35.

An elegant Nickel Piano Lamp, with nickel music rack, four large onyx shelves and onyx knobs. Beautifully the handsome lamp here. \$24, worth \$34.

A more massive combination of onyx and brass, Piano Lamp, four onyx shelves, \$46, worth \$60.

Piano Lamps, Banquet Lamps, Parlor and Stand Lamps, and Hanging Lamps to-day at attractive prices.

Seen the new BRONZES? Historic and allegorical, 24 inches high and less, \$10 to \$1.75 for elegance and size.

Scores of charming Jardinieres—majolica and porcelain—the price fails to betray the elegance, for they're \$5.50 and less and less, to \$35.

Wagons, Rocking Horses, Shoo Flies, Tricycles. Every one for less to-day than yesterday.

A number of strikingly pretty framed PICTURES less than even our little prices to-day.

A little folks' BILLIARD TABLE, cues and balls, only \$6. Handsomely finished. But one left.

Hundreds of Vases and Art Bits of every sort—very givable gifts.

Then China—India, Dresden, Carlsbad and French.

Some of the handsomest easel MIRRORS we've ever shown are ready. \$1.50 and upward. Plenty for less, too.

A few of those wonderfully-reduced-in-price WICKER ROCKERS are left.

Christmas is pre-eminently the happy time to get a handsome fan—as the social events commencing in earnest about this time give the fair recipient the loveliest sort of occasions for fan use.

This FAN stock is exquisite. 76c, 98c, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2.50, \$5. 36, \$7 and along up to \$12 and \$22. We've never sold so many handsome fans before.

What good fortune! After waiting ten days we yesterday received another lot of those \$4.75 EIDERDOWN QUILTS. Just the nick of time for to-day's selling.

The assortment of BLANKETS, QUILTS and COMFORTS is most bewitchingly high in beauty and low in price.

Take Elevator.

"I'm off to bed, so Santa Claus'll come."

No danger of Santa Claus for THE COHEN CO.

Sunured Tobaccos.

THE COHEN CO.

11, 13, 15 and 17 east Broad.

Yes, indeed; music again to-night—STEIN'S ORCHESTRA Commences at 8. The store'll be open later than usual to-night; but it's best to shop as early as you can.

## THE COHEN CO.

getting anybody this year. Whoever needs a gift can be sure their Santa will find it here. Never did a Richmond house buy with such prodigality as did we this year. Never did the Richmond public give so liberal response.

It's been a great success—this buying and selling—so we speed the parting guest—this sumptuous stock of toys, of fancy things, of albums, of Christmas books, of gloves, of linens, and the like, by making this a regular field day of little prices.

Even the great line of Silver-plated Ware—and most of it is in solid silver patterns—will be found to bear unusually tempting prices.

Both sumptuous and durable cutlery and cutlery of excellence without any fanciness, are ready to change owners to-day for little.

It's holiday time all over the house. Come enjoy it.

Please keep to the right and keep moving. We'll promise you careful and prompt service; so kindly help us. There are plenty of resting spots.

Kindly take along your carryable bundles just for to-day.

The store'll be closed Monday.

THE COHEN CO.

LEVY & DAVIS.

Our store will CLOSE TO-NIGHT at 11:30 and will not open again till TUESDAY MORNING, December 27th.

GREAT REDUCTIONS TO-DAY to close out our entire stock of

Dressing Cases,

Combination Cases,

Manicure Cases

Comb and Brush Sets,

In Plush, Oak and White Metal, with silver, celluloid and white metal fittings.

\$25 Cases reduced to \$15.75.

\$20 Cases reduced to \$12.50.

\$15 Cases reduced to \$9.15.

\$10 Cases reduced to \$6.47.

\$8 Cases reduced to \$5.25.

\$7 Cases reduced to \$4.50.

\$6 Cases reduced to \$4.15.

\$5 Cases reduced to \$3.75.

\$4 Cases reduced to \$3.25.

Banquet Lamps.

55 Banquet Lamps came in last night that were bought to be delivered December 1st. Too late now to expect any profit, so they must go at manufacturer's prices.

Banquet Lamps with silver standard and Lampshade, to sell at \$12.41—they go at \$12.41 and the \$13 kind for \$2.75.

Banquet Lamps with gold base and lamp and onyx standard—bought to sell at \$7.50—they go at \$1.92; the \$5.50 for \$5.75, and the \$9 kind for \$6.25.

A full assortment of Silk and Lace Lamp Shades at very low prices.